

REMARKS

Claims 1-42 are pending in the application before entering this amendment.

The examiner allows claims 1-17. The examiner rejects claims 18-42 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Cappels (U.S. Patent 5,731,843) in view of Ichiraku (U.S. Patent No. 6,079,379).

The applicants cancel claims 18-42 without prejudice.

Claims 1-17 continue to be pending in the application after entering this amendment.

The applicants add no new matter and request reconsideration.

Claims Allowed

The applicants thank Examiner Tran for allowing claims 1-17.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 103

Although the applicants continue to disagree with the examiner's evaluation of Cappels and Ichiraku, the applicants cancel claims 18-42 to expedite issuance.

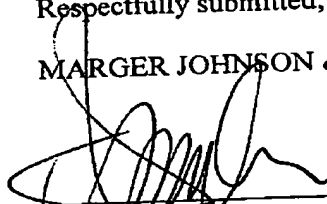
Conclusion

The applicants request reconsideration and expeditious issuance of the pending claims. The applicants encourage the examiner to call the undersigned at (503) 222-3613 if it appears that an interview would be helpful in advancing the case.

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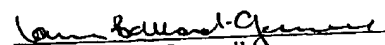
Respectfully submitted,

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office via facsimile number (571) 273-8300, on October 4, 2005.


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